

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

ANTHONY W. BLANKENSHIP,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 17-10738

v.

HONORABLE AVERN COHN

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

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**ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION (Doc. 15)**  
**AND**  
**GRANTING IN PART PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT (Doc. 11)**  
**AND**  
**DENYING DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT (Doc. 12)**  
**AND**  
**REMANDING MATTER FOR FURTHER ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS**

I.

This is a social security case. Plaintiff Anthony W. Blankenship appeals from the final determination of the Commissioner of Social Security (Commissioner) that he is not disabled and therefore not entitled to disability insurance benefits. The matter was referred to a magistrate judge for all pretrial proceedings. Plaintiff and the Commissioner filed cross motions for summary judgment. (Docs. 11, 12). Plaintiff requested that the Commissioner's decision either be reversed or remanded to the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for further proceedings.

The magistrate judge issued a report and recommendation (MJRR), recommending that plaintiff's motion be granted in part, the Commissioner's motion be denied, and the matter remanded under sentence four<sup>1</sup> for further administrative

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<sup>1</sup> "A district court's authority to remand a case for further administrative proceedings is found in 42 U.S.C. § 405(g)." Hollon v. Commissioner, 447 F.3d 477,

proceedings. (Doc. 15). Specifically, the magistrate judge recommends that the ALJ failed to give good reasons for according less than controlling weight to the opinions of plaintiff's treating physician.

## II.

Neither party has filed objections to the MJRR and the time for filing objections has passed. The failure to file objections to the report and recommendation waives any further right to appeal. Smith v. Detroit Federation of Teachers Local 231, 829 F.2d 1370, 1373 (6th Cir.1987). Likewise, the failure to object to the magistrate judge's report releases the Court from its duty to independently review the motions. Thomas v. Arn, 474 U.S. 140, 149 (1985).

However, the Court has reviewed the MJRR and agrees with the magistrate judge. Accordingly, the findings and conclusions of the magistrate judge are ADOPTED as the findings and conclusions of the Court. Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment is GRANTED IN PART. The Commissioner's motion for summary judgment is DENIED.

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482-83 (6th Cir. 2006). The statute permits only two types of remand: a sentence four (post-judgment) remand made in connection with a judgment affirming, modifying, or reversing the Commissioner's decision; and a sentence six (pre-judgment) remand where the court makes no substantive ruling as to the correctness of the Commissioner's decision. Hollon, 447 F.3d at 486 (citing Melkonyan v. Sullivan, 501 U.S. 89, 99-100, 111 S.Ct. 2157, 115 L.Ed.2d 78 (1991)).

This matter is REMANDED for further administrative proceedings consistent with the MJRR.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: 11/3/2017  
Detroit, Michigan

S/Avern Cohn  
AVERN COHN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE